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August 3, 2006

Victoria Rutson, Esq.
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Room 504
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

**Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34672, Union Pacific Railroad
Company – Acquisition and Operation Exemption – Line of
the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company**

Dear Ms. Rutson:

I am writing to request your formal approval, in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.10(d), of an independent third-party consultant to work with your office to prepare the necessary environmental documentation associated with the Union Pacific Railroad Company's ("UPRR") proposed acquisition and operation of a rail line of the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF"). The rail line extends approximately 23.7 miles from Rockview, Missouri at BNSF Milepost 141.8 to Sikeston, Missouri at BNSF Milepost 165.5. UPRR filed a Petition for Exemption in this proceeding on March 14, 2005, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10502(a) to exempt the proposed acquisition and operation from 49 U.S.C. §§ 11323 *et seq.*, and the Surface Transportation Board initiated a proceeding. (See Union Pacific Railroad Company – Acquisition and Operation Exemption – Line of BNSF Railway Company, STB Finance Docket 34672 (STB served June 8, 2005).)

UPRR proposes that ICF Consulting (ICF) be formally retained as the Section of Environmental Analysis's (SEA) third party consultant. We know that ICF has been identified by SEA as an entity qualified to serve as a third-party consultant for railroad related projects. Mr. Alan Summerville is expected to lead the ICF team. The contact information for Mr. Alan Summerville is:

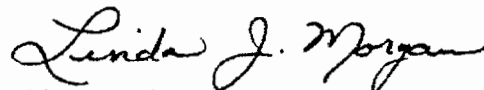
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We expect ICF work to be performed under SEA's direction, supervision and control pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.10(d). Further, we expect ICF to undertake this project in accordance with SEA's requirements for disclosure and pursuant to the memorandum of understanding entered among SEA, ICF and UPRR.

We look forward to your response and to answering any questions you might have.

Sincerely,


Linda J. Morgan

cc: Catherine Glidden

